

True Repentance
June 12, 2022

FBC MISSION: Seeking to honor God by developing fully devoted followers of Jesus who love, live, and share Him.

Memory Verse for June: Psalm 31:11-12

Text: 2 Corinthians 7:1-13

Introduction:

Big Idea: Sin will never be defeated, that is holiness will be obstructed, if you fail to switch from _____ grief to _____ grief.

“Til sin be bitter,
Christ will not
be sweet.”
Thomas Watson

1. **What's at stake? God's plan to _____ humanity from the wreckage of rebellion and sin. (7:1)**

2. **Sin takes its predictable course when confronted with worldly grief: _____ (7:2-10)**

3. **Sin is _____ only through Godly grief (7:10-13)**

Traits of Godly Sorrow (7:11)

- **what earnestness** – carefulness & diligence
- **what eagerness to clear yourselves** – to be restored in right relationship with God & others
- **what indignation** - outraged over their sin
- **what fear** - new sense of reverence for God
- **what longing** – a growing passion to set things straight
- **what zeal** – loving protectionism
- **what punishment** – took steps toward righting the wrong, justice

4. **What is Repentance?**

- It is the **destination** to walk down to reach _____. (Acts 11:18)
- It comes from God, and he gives it because of His _____. (Romans 2:4)
- Its destination is UNDERSTANDING and _____. (2 Timothy 2:25)

Truth into Action:

- Worldly sorrow takes you on a journey **TO DEATH!**
- Sorrow that enables change happens through **A PROCESS.**
- Sorrow that leads to transformation is **A GIFT** from God that's **WORTH SEEKING.**



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

Table Talk

Warm Up: How serious is our culture about dealing with sin God's way. How does this affect everyone?

Read each possible reason as to why people don't repent and write out your thoughts on the point.

1. Ignorance - Romans 6: 23 | People don't realize that sin will cause them to be condemned to hell. They don't know this because they haven't been taught or in their ignorance they simply don't pay attention to this reality.
2. Enjoyment - John 3: 19 | Sin is enjoyable and even though people know that there will be consequences, they'd rather play now and pay later.
3. Procrastination - Acts 22: 16 | Repentance is unpleasant at first and people naturally want to put off what they don't like to do. Some people think that the time to think about the next life is at the end of this life - this is foolish because the end sometimes comes sooner than you think. You might be one step away from the next life and not know it.
4. Skepticism - Mt. 11: 21 | Jesus rebuked cities where most of His works were done because they still doubted and would not repent. If people do not believe, they will not repent.
5. Pride - Mt. 14: 6-8 | Some are too embarrassed to admit their sins and failures to God. It takes humility to admit we've been wrong and need to change.
6. Fear - Gen. 3: 10 | Sometimes we have a wrong concept of God (unfair, angry, hard) and we are afraid to repent thinking He won't want to take us back.
7. Perfectionism - Luke 15: 11 | Some people confuse repentance with perfection. They think that to repent is to decide to become perfect. This thought makes them feel unworthy, leads them to see Christianity as something beyond them and eventually consider Christians as hypocrites.

Why don't people repent? Thinking about why we struggle to repent is linked to a failure to understand the gospel. I appreciate Gavin Ortlund's thoughts he shared in a post. Read it and discuss: "The gospel alone can free us for honesty, ownership, and admission, because the gospel alone destroys the sting and judgment associated with criticism. The gospel takes away the fear that drives defensiveness and frees us to openly admit our shortcomings. The gospel says, 'in the place of your deepest failure and shame you are loved most tenderly.' The gospel says, 'your deepest fears were already born by Christ.' The gospel says, 'your sins were exposed and dealt with at the cross. The battle is already over.'"

Take some time and examine your hearts.

- Do you feel pain for your sin?
- Do you feel ashamed about it?
- Do you confess what you have done the Lord?
- Do you restore the damage you have done?
- Do you truly wish for sin to be uprooted from your heart?
- Do you keep a Gospel-focus in every moment?
- If so, your repentance is a precious gift of God. If not, cry out to the Lord for salvation!

Closing Prayer: Father God thank you for teaching me in your word how to deal with sin. I am desperate for You to mold and shape my heart to hate sin and love You. Please bring fresh repentance to my soul!